

# GAULISH TERRA *SIGILLATA* IN SEVILLE. NEW DATA, NEW PERSPECTIVES

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## Abstract

This paper deals with the study of three sets of Gaulish *sigillata* from contexts in the Roman port area of Seville. The chronological sequence of the assemblages, dated between the end of the Julio-Claudian and the end of the Flavian period, has allowed the evolution of the consumption patterns of this type of pottery in the city of Seville to be investigated. A statistical analysis of the volume of imported types and the size of the pieces obtained at different chronological moments, when compared to data from various contexts of reference throughout the Empire, have revealed the existence of a series of consumption patterns, and moreover ones specific to different areas within the Roman world.

## Resumo

El presente artículo aborda el estudio de tres conjuntos de cerámica sigilata sudgálica descubiertos en contextos portuarios hispalenses. La sucesiva cronología de los lotes, fechados entre finales de la época julio-claudia y finales de la época Flavia, permitió realizar una aproximación a la evolución de las pautas de consumo de este tipo de cerámica en la ciudad de Sevilla. Un análisis estadístico del volumen de tipos importados y del tamaño de las piezas adquiridas en diferentes momentos cronológicos, confrontado a los datos de varios contextos de referencia a través del Imperio, han puesto de relieve la existencia de una serie de pautas de consumo propias a las diferentes zonas del mundo romano.

## Keywords

Supply patterns; production modules; metrological study; evolution of consumption; marbled *sigillata*.

## Palavras-chave

Pautas de aprovisionamiento; módulos de producción; estudio metrológico; evolución del consumo; sigilata marmorata.

## 1. Introduction

The study of the ceramic consumption in *Hispalis* (Seville) between the Late Republic and the end of the Late Antiquity has already achieved a certain tradition concerning amphora production, which has been relatively well studied in recent years (Amores Carredano *et al.*, 2007; García Vargas, 2007, 2009, 2012, 2015, 2016). Further, the repertoires of ceramics imitating imported fine wares, as a reflection of the impact on the local ‘markets’ of Mediterranean imports, have received attention recently too (García Fernández and García Vargas, 2014). However, the importation itself of these fine wares has been the subject of only a few studies (among them Arnold 2015, wich is a previous french version of this chapter), despite the fact that, in recent decades, the stratigraphical information for them has increased in parallel with the excavations brought about by the urban boom of the first decade of the 21st century.

In this work, we present a qualitative and quantitative panorama, as broadly as possible, of the importation of Gaulish *sigillata* to the city as evidenced from three archaeological interventions with their several contexts: namely, i) the excavation of Alemanes St. 25-29, ii) that of the plots 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 of the modified *Plan Especial* 12 of San Bernardo Neighbourhood, and iii) of the Patio de Banderas of the Seville Alcázar. In this way we offer data to increase our, at present, scarce knowledge of this imported ceramic class in the valley of the Guadalquivir (**Fig. 1**).